OPEN ARTIST CALL

Art Alley Project & Pock Park – Blair, NE

Deadline: March 15, 2025 at 11.59pm

Public Art Call for Qualifications

Total Project Budget: $34,000

Budget Description:

$34,000 is available for all related expenses of this Public Art commission. Up to six(6) $2000 artist stipends and one(1) $6000 artist stipends available for murals. The selected artist(s) will be responsible for any and all costs necessary to complete their scope of services, including (but not limited to) artist fees, supplies, equipment rental, insurance, travel, etc.

Project Details:

The Blair Art Alley Project & Pocket Park will feature new landscaping, overhead bistro lighting, custom bike rack, signage and up to six(6) murals that are 20ft x 13ft each and one(1) that is 45ft x 17ft approximately. This will be on the back side of the police station in the alleyway between 17th and 18th streets and parking lot in Blair, NE.

The Blair Art Alley Project will be the second commissioned mural project in Blair, NE. The goal is to welcome residents and visitors to Blair and inspire exploration of a vibrant downtown with historic buildings, brick streets, exciting local shops, and restaurants in a rural community within commuting distance of Omaha.

Blair is located approximately 30 miles north of Omaha, NE. Blair is part of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum collection. The Tower of the Four Winds at Black Elk-Neihardt Park stands as a memorial to John G. Neihardt and Black Elk of the Lakota Sioux. The area around Blair relies heavily their agricultural industry.

Once the finalists are selected by the Public Art Committee, the artist(s) will work with the group on all aspects of this project. The muralist(s) must submit a to-scale, color concept sketch to the committee for feedback and approval. Some sketch revisions based on feedback should be expected. We are looking for design inspiration with agricultural elements, floral, interactive or whimsical design in nature. For those finalists who submit a concept sketch mural, will recieve a $100 artist stipend .

The Public Art Committee will choose up to six(6) designs.

An artist stipend of $2000 per mural of

20ft x 13ft size and one(1) artist stipend of $6000 for the large mural once completed.

To apply for opportunity to complete a mural, fill out this form with a short artist statement, description of past work, approach to integrating input into the design, and 3 - 5 images of previous mural work. Indicate if you want one of the six(6) 25ft x 25ft murals or the one(1) large mural space.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Selection Information:

Based on the submitted photos of past work and answers to the questions below, select artist(s) will be invited to then submit a concept sketch for mural based on the following criteria:

Quality of artistic composition and execution.

Creativity and originality of the depicted subject.

Overall impression of the art.

Commitment to creating public art that reflects the neighborhood where the art is located.

Extent of prior experience with large-scale murals.

Finalist Requirements:

If you have been notified as a finalist, you will need to do the following

Create a preliminary concept sketch for review by the Public Art Committee by May 1st

Respond, in a timely manner, to feedback from the Public Art Committee with adjustments to the design as needed.

Paint the mural begining June 9th -13th 2025 and all murals completed before the end of August 2025

Communicate consistently with the Project Manager throughout the project

Carry personal liability insurance

TIMELINE \* subject to change.

February 7th: Request for Qualifications opens

March15th: Request for Qualifications closes

April 1st : Finalists will be notified

May 1st: concept sketch by selected finalist due

June 9th – 13th tentative installation begins

How to Apply:

To apply, fill out this form with a short artist statement , description of past work, approach to

integrating community input into the design, and 3-5 images of previous mural work. Work samples should reflect the compositional style you would use for this project. Your application will

not be considered without submitting photos of completed work. File size should not exceed 3 MB for work samples.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: March 15st 2025 at 11:59PM

To Apply Visit:

The completed form and attach photos can be emailed to

WashCoNePublicArt@gmail.com

Questions?

If you have questions about this project or require assistance with this form, please contact

-Angie Schroder 444

Project Coordinator

Art Alley Project & Pocket Park

WashCoNePublicArt@gmail.com

How did you hear about this opportunity?

(NAC website, Public Artist website, social media, colleague, etc.)

Artist Statement:

Description of past work:

Approach to integrating community input into the design:

Upload 3-5 images of previous mural work